

# Report on the National User Facility Organization (NUFO)

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Presentation to the  
RHIC & AGS  
Users' Executive Committee

April 7, 2006

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# National User Facility Organization (NUFO)

<http://www.bnl.gov/nufo>

search

Go

## Site Details

[Homepage](#)

[User Organization Reps](#)

[User Administrators](#)

[World User Facilities](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

[Annual Meetings](#)

[Immigration Help](#)

[Immigration News](#)

[List Servers](#)

## Other Information

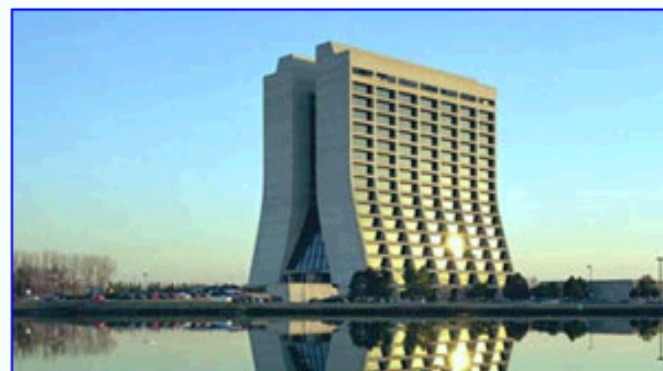
[BNL Site Index](#)

[Can't View PDFs?](#)

[LightSources.org](#)

## National User Facility Organization

This Organization was initially founded in 1990 to provide a mechanism for opening avenues of communication between the National Synchrotron Light Source, Advanced Photon Source, and the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory. It has since expanded to include all materials sciences, high-energy, nuclear-energy, and nanoscience user facilities in the United States. The membership includes User Facility Administrators and User Organization Representatives. The group convenes annually with meetings rotating around facilities. The agenda of these meetings are determined based on input from the membership.



The Group promotes and encourages discussions among user facility administrators, their management, and their user organization representatives by communicating current and future needs, concerns, and trends at its yearly meeting. The Group solicits and disseminates information routinely with the use of electronic mail.

[Annual Meeting - March 28 & 29, 2006 - Fermilab](#)

# List Servers are Available

## Listing of National User Organization Representatives

If you wish to send an e-mail to this group, please click: [national-uec-chairs-l@lists.bnl.gov](mailto:national-uec-chairs-l@lists.bnl.gov)

Facility	Location	UEC Chair	UEC Chair Affiliation	Phone Number
<a href="#">Accelerator Test Facility</a>	BNL	<a href="#">Brant Johnson</a>	<a href="#">Brookhaven National Laboratory</a>	631-344-4552
<a href="#">Advanced Light Source</a>	LBNL	<a href="#">Clemens Heske</a>	<a href="#">University of Nevada</a>	702-895-2694
<a href="#">Advanced Photon Source</a>	ANL	<a href="#">Carol Thompson</a>	<a href="#">Northern Illinois University</a>	630-252-7378 or 815-753-1772
<a href="#">Alternating Gradient Synchrotron</a>	BNL	<a href="#">Brant Johnson</a>	<a href="#">Brookhaven National Laboratory</a>	631-344-4552
<a href="#">Argonne Tandem Linac Accelerator System</a>	ANL	<a href="#">Ani Aprahamian</a>	<a href="#">University of Notre Dame</a>	574-631-8120
<a href="#">Center for Functional Nanomaterials</a>	BNL	<a href="#">Donna Chen</a>	<a href="#">University of South Carolina</a>	803-777-1050

# National User Facility Organization Meeting Held March 28-29 at Fermilab





# Highlights of Meeting

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- Presentations on the National Academy of Sciences Report on Rising Above the Gathering Storm
  - Describes the threat to the US's economic competitiveness due to insufficient investment in basic research in the sciences, inadequate science education, and increasingly more attractive educational and research options outside the U.S.
  - <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11463.html>
- Safety & Training Issues

# Rising Above the Gathering Storm

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- Summary of the National Academies' Gathering Storm Report

*Cherry Murray, Deputy Director of LLNL, co-author of the NAS report*

- Past History of Competitiveness Initiatives and Their Impact

*Eli Kintisch, AAAS and Science Magazine*

- How the Competitiveness Initiative is Playing out in Washington

*Mark Marin, Lewis-Burke and Associates, Washington D.C.*

- View of the Competitiveness Initiative from Congress

*Michael Holland, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science*

# Rising Above the Gathering Storm

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- How Scientists Can Communicate with the Public and Address Legislative Issues
  - *Deborah Koolbeck, Office of Congressman Rush Holt*
- Previous Grass Roots Campaigns from the Physical Sciences
  - *Steve Pierson, American Physical Society*
- Communicating the HEP & Light Sources Message to the Public
  - *Neil Calder, Director of Public Relations, SLAC*

# What Did We Learn?

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- Gathering Storm Report is dominating what is happening in Washington today
- What to know about working with Congress
- What not to do when visiting Congressional leaders
- All laboratories, facilities, and users must start/improve working relationship—must deliver a unified, consistent message in Washington



# What Did We Learn?

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- Strengthen relations with the American Physical Society to improve grass roots efforts on behalf of science
  - User committees need to become more active (train representatives that go to DC)
  - Independent users need to become more active in grass roots efforts
  - American Physical Society is eager to work with NUFO and vice versa

# What Did We Learn?

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- NUFO was viewed by meeting participants as a great untapped avenue for communication
- 2-page leave behind is wrong

# Issues to Work on

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- Nationally plan together, couple users, cover breath of Office of Science
- There are no short-term fixes, only long-term relationships
- Build relationships with Congressional staffers
- Important to maintain institutional continuity
- Understand competitive environment—do your homework
- Develop a brand

# Issues to Work On

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- Develop your story
  - federal benefit received from users (e.g., jobs, economic growth, education, competitiveness)
- Make your story short and to the point
- Send thank you letters
- Need to continue work on getting NUFO recognized
- NUFO article in Science Magazine
- NUFO article in Brookhaven Bulletin
- Invite user facilities based at universities to join NUFO

# Safety & Training Issues

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- Summary of questionnaire
  - Every facility has commonalities and differences
- Discussions on
  - Processes that drive user safety training at the various DOE user facilities
  - Core training requirements and how they are determined
  - Standardization and transferability of training between facilities
  - Mechanisms by which training information is delivered



# What Did We Learn about Training?

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- Many similarities, many differences with respect to training
- Universal training courses should be developed that would give guests reciprocity at multiple facilities
- Facility-specific training is and always will be critical and required
- Automation is key

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# Suggestions Please